

From: [Gray, David](#)
To: [Andrea Morrow](#)
Cc: [Emily Lindley](#); [Ryan Vise](#); [Michael Honeycutt](#); [Richard Chism](#); [Susan Johnson](#); [Tracy Miller](#); [Lori Wilson](#)
Subject: Re: Proposed response to AP questions with EPA additions- please review
Date: Sunday, September 3, 2017 11:57:23 AM

I should have the information about on the ground monitoring around cosby in a few minutes

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 3, 2017, at 11:51 AM, Andrea Morrow <Andrea.Morrow@tceq.texas.gov> wrote:

David, can you give me a description of what the TAGA bus does?

This is a response to the Associated Press questions:

- 1) We have been told EPA is doing air monitoring at the Arkema plant in Crosby. Can you tell me what your monitoring has found? What chemicals in what concentrations? Where are you doing the monitoring exactly, with what instruments?
 - 2) Your data shows multiple ozone and PM monitoring stations in Houston were knocked out during the story. Was it indeed more than half of the ozone monitors? When do you expect them to be fixed and back online?
 - 3) Are EPA/TCEQ monitoring air quality around Houston petrochemical plants and refineries to look for potential health and safety problems? Have they deployed any mobile air monitors? (I gather these are EPA crews working in coordination with TCEQ?) If so, what have they found in the last few days near the petrochemical plants around the ship channel? If they haven't been monitoring, why not? The startup and shutdown operations typically produce heavier emissions of airborne contaminants, as we know.
-
- 2) Other than ozone and PM10 and PM2.5 are you monitoring for any other specific compounds?
 - 3) What are the state of Texas and the EPA doing to monitor public health near the petrochemical plants and refineries given the extraordinary shutdown and startup pollution and the possibility of contaminants released into their neighborhoods? Will there be health monitoring? If so, by whom? If not, why not?

From: Emily Lindley

Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2017 11:48 AM

To: Ryan Vise

Cc: Andrea Morrow; Gray, David; Michael Honeycutt; Richard Chism; Susan Johnson; Tracy Miller; Lori Wilson

Subject: Re: Proposed response to AP questions with EPA additions- please review

I added the word Arkema at the end of the 1st paragraph. I think we need to say what the TAGA bus is and what it does. I like that we got that in there. Just need to explain to the public more.

Just so I'm straight is this part of the larger statement from this morning? Or something different?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 3, 2017, at 11:44 AM, Ryan Vise <Ryan.Vise@Tceq.Texas.Gov> wrote:

I'm good with the language

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 3, 2017, at 11:43 AM, Andrea Morrow

<Andrea.Morrow@tceq.texas.gov> wrote:

I've heard from Cory, David, and Mike. OCE are you ok with the start-up/shut-down language? Lori, Emily, Ryan, any changes?

Air Quality Monitoring: Monitors are showing that air quality at this time is not concerning and local residents should not be concerned about air quality issues related to the effects of the storm. Due to quick action and proper preparation by state authorities, all the ambient air quality monitors in the network from south of Corpus Christi to Beaumont were protected before the storm.

Since then, state authorities are working to get the systems up and running again. As of Saturday, September 2, over 70 percent of the monitors are up and working again; and authorities expect that the network will be fully operational again by next week. EPA has its surveillance aircraft conducting air monitoring for the Arkema plant fire. Also, EPA's mobile air monitoring TAGA bus will be in Houston to assist with air monitoring as well.

Emergency response monitoring at the Arkema facility evacuation perimeter is being conducted. We will make those data available as we are able. So far, nothing of immediate health concern has been detected.

The same rules apply for start-up, shut-down activities however delays may occur based upon factors related to the emergency in some situations (i.e. power outages, computer system failure, etc.).

From: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>
Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2017 11:38 AM
To: Michael Honeycutt
Cc: Andrea Morrow; Richard Chism; Ryan Vise; Susan Johnson; Tracy Miller; Lori Wilson; Emily Lindley
Subject: Re: Proposed response to AP questions - please review

Feel free to add that EPA has its surveillance aircraft conducting air monitoring for the plant fire. Also, our mobile air monitoring TAGA bus will be in Houston to assist with air monitoring.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 3, 2017, at 11:35 AM, Michael Honeycutt <Michael.Honeycutt@tceq.texas.gov> wrote:

Ah. Missed that.

On Sep 3, 2017, at 11:33 AM, Andrea Morrow <Andrea.Morrow@tceq.texas.gov> wrote:

He dropped the ozone question, Mike.

From: Michael Honeycutt
Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2017 11:32 AM
To: Andrea Morrow
Cc: Richard Chism; Ryan Vise; David Gray (gray.david@epa.gov); Susan Johnson; Tracy Miller; Lori Wilson; Emily Lindley
Subject: Re: Proposed response to AP questions - please review

On the ozone blurb, you could add that TCEQ and EPA send ozone notifications like we always do to subscribers of our notification systems. There was nothing unusual about this notification.

On Sep 3, 2017, at 11:28 AM, Andrea Morrow <Andrea.Morrow@tceq.texas.gov> wrote:

Okay, what do you all think of this:

Air Quality

Monitoring: Monitors

are showing that air quality at this time is not concerning and local residents should not be concerned about air quality issues related to the effects of the storm. Due to quick action and proper preparation by state authorities, all the ambient air quality monitors in the network from south of Corpus Christi to Beaumont were protected before the storm. Since then, state authorities are working to get the systems up and running again. As of Saturday, September 2, over 70 percent of the monitors are up and working again; and authorities expect that the network will be fully operational again by next week.

Emergency

response
monitoring at the
Arkema facility
evacuation
perimeter is being
conducted. We will
make those data
available as we are
able. So far,
nothing of
immediate health
concern has been
detected.

The same rules
apply for start-up,
shut-down
activities however
delays may occur
based upon factors
related to the
emergency in some
situations (i.e.
power outages,
computer system
failure, etc.).

From: Michael
Honeycutt
Sent: Sunday,
September 3, 2017
11:23 AM
To: Richard Chism;
Andrea Morrow
Cc: Ryan Vise; David
Gray
(gray.david@epa.gov);
Susan Johnson; Tracy
Miller

Subject: Re:
Proposed response
to AP questions -
please review

You could add that
we are doing
emergency
response
monitoring at the
Arkema facility
evacuation
perimeter and will
make that data
available as we
have time. So far,
nothing of
immediate health
concern has been
detected.

From: Richard Chism
Sent: Sunday,
September 3, 2017
11:19:57 AM
To: Andrea Morrow
Cc: Ryan Vise; David
Gray
(gray.david@epa.gov);
Michael Honeycutt;
Susan Johnson; Tracy
Miller

Subject: Re:
Proposed response
to AP questions -
please review

This is directly from
the draft joint
response this
morning. You can
use it.

Air Quality

Monitoring: Monitors

are showing that air quality at this time is not concerning and local residents should not be concerned about air quality issues related to the effects of the storm. Due to quick action and proper preparation by state authorities, all the ambient air quality monitors in the network from south of Corpus Christi to Beaumont were protected before the storm. Since then, state authorities are working to get the systems up and running again. As of Saturday, September 2, over 70 percent of the monitors are up and working again; and authorities expect that the network will be fully operational again by next week.

Sent from my

iPhone

On Sep 3, 2017, at

11:14 AM, Andrea

Morrow

<Andrea.Morrow@tceq.texas.gov>

wrote:

Which

is

correct,

65% or

this:

- Air

Quality

Monitoring:

One of

the

many

preparations

for

Hurricane

Harvey

included

EPA,

TCEQ,

and

other

monitoring

entities

temporarily

removing

approximately

75

percent

of the

stationary

air

monitoring

equipment

from
the
greater
Houston,
Corpus
Christi,
and
Beaumont
areas.

Since
then,
state
and
local
authorities
are
working
to get
the
systems
up and
running
again.

As of
Saturday,
September
2, over
70
percent
of the
monitors
are up
and
working
again;
and
authorities
expect
that
the
network

will be
fully
operational
again
by next
week.
Of the
available
air
monitoring
data
collected
from
August
24-
September
2,
2017,
all
measured
concentrations
were
well
below
levels
of
health
concern.
Monitors
are
showing
that air
quality
at this
time is
not
concerning
and
local
residents
should

not be
concerned
about
air
quality
issues
related
to the
effects
of the
storm.

From:

Ryan
Vise

Sent:

Sunday,
September
3, 2017
11:07
AM

To:

Andrea
Morrow

Cc:

David
Gray
(gray.david@epa.gov);
Richard
Chism;
Michael
Honeycutt;
Susan
Johnson;
Tracy
Miller

Subject:

Re:
Proposed
response

to AP
questions
- please
review

I'm
good
with
these
answers.

Sent
from
my
iPhone

On Sep
3,
2017,
at
11:06
AM,
Andrea
Morrow
<Andrea.Morrow@tceq.texas.gov>
wrote:

FYI,
Cory.
He
has
deleted
the
third
question
because
he
understands
the
nature
of
the
AirNow
report.

I don't have sufficient information to answer these questions. I suggest we say, the TCEQ has reactivated 65 percent of our monitoring network in the hurricane-affected areas.

(Insert EPA monitoring data here or explain why it is not available)

The same rules apply for start-up, shut-down

activities
however
delays
may
occur
based
upon
factors
related
to
the
emergency
in
some
situations
(i.e.
power
outages,
computer
system
failure,
etc.).

Hourly
data
from
the
operating
ozone
monitors
in
TCEQ's
network
are
used
by
the
EPA
to
predict
air
quality.
What
you
are
looking
at
is
a
forecast

based
on
one-
hour
(snapshot)
readings.
The
201
ppb
you
referenced
is
not
an
actual
monitored
reading,
it
is
a
projection.
TCEQ
is
aware
of
elevated
ozone
levels
west
of
Houston
which
is
not
unusual
for
this
time
of
year.

1)

You
are
doing
air
monitoring
at
the
Arkema

plant
in
Crosby.
Can
you
tell
me
what
your
monitoring
has
found?
What
chemicals
in
what
concentrations?
Where
are
you
doing
the
monitoring
exactly?

2)
Are
EPA/TCEQ
monitoring
air
quality
around
petrochemical
plants
and
refineries
looking
for
potential
problems?
Have
they
deployed
any
mobile
air
monitors?
(I
gather
these

are
EPA
crews
working
in
coordination
with
TCEQ?)
If
so,
what
have
they
found
in
the
last
few
days
near
the
petrochemical
plants
around
the
ship
channel?
If
they
haven't
been
monitoring,
why
not?
The
startup
and
shutdown
operations
typically
produce
heavier
emissions
of
airborne
contaminants,
right?

3)
I

saw
an
ozone
level
of
201
ppb
recorded
in
Houston
on
Friday
on
airnow.gov
and
Andrea
Morrow
of
TCEQ
told
my
colleague
Jason
Dearen
that
the
reading
was
recorded
as
a
single
hourly
max
at
one
monitoring
station.
Your
ozone
level
for
the
day
(95
ppb)
is
based
on
an

eight-
hour
of
average,
she
said.
But
that
does
not
deny
that
a
single
station
had
that
maximum
level,
correct?
What
station
was
it?
Can
you
tell
me
what
hour
of
the
day?
Did
any
other
stations
Very
Unhealthy
ozon
levels
on
Friday
or
Saturday?

Hourly
data
from
the

operating
ozone
monitors
in
TCEQ's
network
are
used
by
the
EPA
to
predict
air
quality.
What
you
are
looking
at
is
a
forecast
based
on
one-
hour
(snapshot)
readings.
The
201
ppb
you
referenced
is
not
an
actual
monitored
reading,
it
is
a
projection.
TCEQ
is
aware
of
elevated
ozone

levels
west
of
Houston
which
is
not
unusual
for
this
time
of
year.

4)
What
are
the
state
of
Texas
and
the
EPA
doing
to
monitor
public
health
near
the
petrochemical
plants
and
refineries
given
the
extraordinary
shutdown
and
startup
pollution
and
the
possibility
of
contaminants
released
into
their

neighborhoods?

Will

there

be

health

monitoring?

If

so,

by

whom?

If

not,

why

not?